

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of  
Annual Assessment of the Status of  
Competition in the Market for the  
Delivery of Video Programming

MB Docket No. 12-203

**COMMENTS OF  
Lincoln County Television**

**Lincoln County Television (LCTV)** submits these comments in response to the above captioned Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”), released July 20, 2012, seeking “data, information, and comment on the state of competition in the delivery of video programming.”

**LCTV is a 501(c)3 organization managing the Public, Educational and Government Access channel which serves 10 towns in Lincoln County, Maine**

1. How many channels does your MVPD operator(s) provide for PEG programming? **Time Warner Cable provides us with one channel**
2. On which tier are these channels placed and is extra equipment required to view them? **The channel is placed on the basic tier. A digital conversion box is required for viewing.**
3. Are there more or fewer PEG channels carried on MVPD systems than were carried as of June 2010? **I don't know**
4. What data sources exist to track the availability of PEG programming? **Time Warner Cable does not allow us to participate in the on-screen program guide, nor are we allowed to participate in the published guides in the weekly papers. One local newspaper prints our weekly schedule, but the print is so small you need a magnifying glass to read it. Our schedule is also available on our website.**
5. **We not in an AT&T U-verse community.**
6. **LCTV provides 24/7 programming. Locally produced programming by volunteer producers includes weekly government meetings of five of the towns we service, seven weekly and bi-monthly religious services and programs, a weekly show featuring local musicians, a weekly show featuring talks by local residents and business owners, a weekly show of historical society lectures, a weekly show of interviews with older residents talking about their lives, a weekly show featuring local businesses and places of interest, a weekly show discussing the weekly news, a weekly show featuring social justice and political events throughout the state, a weekly show about gardening in Maine, a weekly children's show, a monthly show about health, occasional shows featuring local events, parades, celebrations, lectures, demonstrations and non-profit**

activities. Our newest show is a review show of videos found online, produced by two Junior High School students. We also air shows requested by viewers that are nationally produced, such as "Democracy Now!" and "The Thom Hartmann Show", plus other shows about government policies, ecology, nature, energy, fishing, woodworking, lifestyles and travel. We also provide the municipalities and nonprofit organizations with an electronic bulletin board to announce themselves, and programs and events of interest to the community. We also provide training and equipment to citizens interested in making video productions for the community.

In 2007, through the largess of one individual, Lincoln County Television was able to take advantage of new technology to expand programming, changing from analog to digital file storage and automated scheduling, but we are mostly dependent on the local governments for operational support and have a constant struggle in obtaining sufficient funding to function at a minimal level. I spend an inordinate amount of time and energy appealing to the governments of ten towns each year, each year encountering different select boards and budget committees, many of which have, of late, been comprised of residents with the agenda of decreasing tax supported services. The financial insecurity takes a toll on what is primarily a volunteer organization and the push back is discouraging for local producers. PEG serves a vital function in maintaining our democracy by enabling citizens to use the medium of television and the internet to express themselves, inform, discuss and, in general, communicate with each other. PEG should be protected and funded on a national level.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Crowley  
Station Manager  
Lincoln County Television  
29 Sheepscot Rd  
Newcastle, ME 04553

207-563-6338  
[lctv1@lctv.org](mailto:lctv1@lctv.org)  
[www.lctv.org](http://www.lctv.org)

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